

TENNESSEE

Nationwide, COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the arts. Thanks to historic investments, the NEA is helping the arts and cultural sector to recover, rebuild, and reopen. In 2020:

- Arts and cultural production in Tennessee added **3.2%** or **\$11.9 billion** to the state's economy.
- Tennessee's arts and cultural industries employed **81,490** workers. These workers earned wages and benefits totaling over **\$5.9 billion**.

GRANTS TO THE STATE

Over a five-year period (FY 2018-2022), the NEA distributed \$14,837,793 in federal funds to grant applicant organizations in this state, either directly or through state and regional partners.

The Arts Endowment awarded **180** direct grants throughout Tennessee over the past 5 years, totaling **\$11,745,793**. These direct grants included:

- Visual art workshops for people with disabilities
- A cultural tourism project highlighting the cultural assets of Orange Mound, a predominantly African American neighborhood in Memphis
- Initiatives expanding the Hunter Museum of Art's accessibility through multisensory experiences

NEA NATIONAL INITIATIVES IN THE STATE

In addition to offering direct grants, the NEA supports national initiatives benefiting people across the country. Over the past five years:

Blue Star Museums program provided free admission to thousands of active military personnel and their families at **67** participating museums in Tennessee.

Poetry Out Loud program provided opportunities for an average of **1,844** students per year attending **73** unique high schools in Tennessee to appreciate—through study, memorization, and public recitation—great poetry.

The **NEA Big Read** program generated **139** community events focused on reading outstanding American literature and involving more than **9,325** adults and students in Tennessee.

